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INFORMATION NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Tenth annual report by the European Statistical Governance Advisory Board to the European Parliament and the Council on the implementation of the European statistics code of practice by Eurostat and the European statistical system as a whole

1. The European Statistical Governance Board (ESGAB) was established by the European Parliament and the Council in 2008 to provide an independent overview of the European Statistical System, in particular the implementation of the European Statistics Code of Practice.
2. Its key tasks are to prepare an annual report to the European Parliament and the Council on the implementation of the said Code of Practice, assess the implementation of the European Statistical System as a whole, and provide advice to the Commission on appropriate measures to facilitate its implementation.
3. The report is usually submitted to the Council in autumn each year, as part of the statistical package. In 2018, the ESGAB report was not part of the statistical package due to delays in its preparation, and is therefore, exceptionally, submitted to the Council in January 2019 (doc. 5128/19).

4. The report focuses on two key aspects: 1) improvements needed to enhance the governance of the European Statistical System (ESS), subject to the existing legislation and programmes; 2) enhancements that could be achieved in the medium term, possibly by changing the existing set of national and European rules. The report provides 14 recommendations.
 5. Against this background, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to include the ESGAB annual report in the Council's agenda as an "A" item for information.
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